

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Omaha District, Corps of Engineers
6014 U.S. Post Office and Courthouse
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

DM 1130-2-9

MR00P-R

Memorandum
No. 1130-2-9

6 August 1980

Project Operation
REPORTING ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

1. Purpose. This memorandum establishes procedures for proper and timely reporting of fish kills, severe algal blooms, sewage spills, and discharges of oil and hazardous substances into watercourses and/or lakes.
2. Applicability. This memorandum is applicable to all field operating elements having civil works responsibility.
3. References.
 - a. EO 11507.
 - b. EO 11735.
 - c. EO 12088.
 - d. ER 1130-2-415.
 - e. EP 1165-2-501.
 - f. National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, Section 311 of Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-500).
 - g. Annex E to ER 500-1-1.
4. General.
 - a. The National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan was promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) pursuant to Section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL 92-500). The Plan is administered jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard (USCG). The Corps of Engineers through the Department of Defense is delegated by the Plan as a primary support agency to EPA/USCG in mitigating damages and controlling the pollution resulting from a spill or discharge of oil or hazardous substances into the Nation's watercourses.
 - b. The Omaha District's primary responsibility under the Plan is the investigation and reporting of spills discovered by Corps personnel or of those spill reports received at random from boaters, fishermen, public utilities, police and

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sheriff departments, and others. No further action, such as the containment or cleanup of the spill or the provision of assistance to other agencies in their efforts of containment or countermeasures, are to be taken without direction from the District Engineer.

c. Standardization of reporting procedures will expedite handling of the aforementioned environmental problems. Operating procedures are not detailed in this Memorandum since these procedures are highly dependent upon the nature and placement of the environmental problem in question.

5. Reporting Procedures.

a. In the event that a fish kill, sewage spill or severe algal bloom is observed by project personnel, the following procedures should be observed.

(1) Fish Kill. Note location, time, and an estimate of the size, species and number of fish observed. If possible, obtain two or three of the fish, place in a plastic bag, and freeze as soon as possible.

(2) Sewage Spill. Note time, location, source and flow destination eg. Lewis & Clark Lake etc. If possible, obtain a sample of the water and refrigerate as soon as possible.

(3) Severe Algal Bloom. Note location, time and wind speed and direction. Note also shoreline discoloration or dense patches of floating algae. If possible obtain a water sample and refrigerate as soon as possible.

b. It should be remembered that photographic documentation as well as comments pertaining to other on-site observations may be helpful.

c. On encountering any of the above conditions, the observer should notify the project manager who in turn should notify the following Omaha District offices:

Chief, Recreation-Resource Management Branch
Operations Division 402-221-4139

Chief, Water Quality and Sediment Section
Engineering Division 402-221-4622

The Omaha District will then report the information to:

Chief, Recreation-Resource Management Branch
Con-Ops (MRD) 402-221-7284

d. After notifying the District Offices, mail any samples collected to the following address:

Missouri River Division Laboratory
Corps of Engineers
ATTN: Biology Laboratory
420 South 18th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Do not mail fish samples unless reasonably certain that they will arrive at the destination in an unspoiled condition.

e. The following agencies and individuals should also be notified, concomitant with geographical area of concern and environmental type of concern. Algal bloom problems will be monitored by in-house personnel and not reported to other agencies unless such algal blooms are the apparent cause of fish kills or other problems.

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>TYPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM AND AREA OF CONCERN</u>
<u>FEDERAL</u>	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VII Laboratory 25 Funston Road Kansas City, KS 66115 FTS 758-4461	Notify in the event of a fish kill or sewage spill. The area of concern includes Iowa and Nebraska (including Gavins Point Dam). Can provide help if pesticide analysis is needed.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VIII 1680 Lincoln Street Suite 103 Denver, CO 80203 FTS 327-3914	Notify in the event of a fish kill or sewage spill. The area of concern includes South Dakota (excluding Gavins Point Dam), North Dakota, Montana, and Colorado.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Area Manager Pierre, SD 57501 FTS 8-782-5226	Notify in the event of a fish kill in the Dakota Area
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service P.O. Box 139 Yankton, SD 57078 605-669-9217	Can provide help in the event of a fish kill in Gavins Point Area

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AGENCY

TYPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM
AND AREA OF CONCERN

FEDERAL

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Fish Disease Control Center
1100 E. Burlington Ave.
Box 917
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
303-867-9474

Can provide help if fish disease
analysis is needed

STATE

Colorado Department of Health
4210 E. 11th Avenue
Denver, CO 80220
303-388-6111

Notify in the event of a sewage spill
in Colorado

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216
303-825-1192

Notify in the event of a fish kill
in Colorado

State Department of Health and
Environmental Sciences
Helena, MT 59601
406-449-2544

Notify in the event of a sewage spill
in Montana

Montana Fish and Game Department
Helena, MT 59601
406-449-2535

Notify in the event of a fish kill
in Montana

Nebraska Department of Environmental
Control
State House Station
Box 94653
Lincoln, NE 68509
404-471-2186

Notify in the event of a sewage spill
in Nebraska

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
2200 N. 33rd Street
P.O. Box 30370
Lincoln, NE 68503
402-464-0641

Notify in the event of a fish kill
in Nebraska

AGENCY

TYPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM
AND AREA OF CONCERN

STATE

North Dakota Department of Health Bismarck, ND 58501 701-224-2371	Notify in the event of a sewage spill in North Dakota
North Dakota Game and Fish Department 2121 Lovett Avenue Bismarck, ND 58501 701-224-2180	Notify in the event of a fish kill in North Dakota
Iowa Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Commission 3920 Delaware Avenue P.O. Box 3326 Des Moines, IA 50316 515-265-8134	Notify in the event of a sewage spill in Iowa
Iowa State Conservation Commission State Office Building 300 4th Street Des Moines, IA 50319 515-281-5145	Notify in the event of a fish kill in Iowa
South Dakota Department of Environ- mental Protection Joe Foss Building Pierre, SD 57501 605-773-4067	Notify in the event of a sewage spill in South Dakota
South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks Sigurd Anderson Building Pierre, SD 57501 605-224-3384	Notify in the event of a fish kill in South Dakota

f. In the event of a discharge of oil or hazardous substances into waterways, the following procedures should be observed.

(1) Area Engineers receiving direct spill reports from a facility responsible for the discharge are to notify the owner/operator of the facility to report the incident to:

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Duty Officer
National Response Center
U.S. Coast Guard
400 Seventh St. SW
Washington, DC 20590
Toll Free Telephone 800-424-8802

Section 311(b)(5) of PL 92-500 states, "Any such person who fails to notify immediately such agency of such discharge shall upon conviction, be fined not more than \$10,000, or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both." National Response Center may be notified of oil spills or hazardous substance spills at any time, day or night, by telephone.

(2) Random reports of spills are to be reported to the Chief, Emergency Management Division (MROEM).

Office Phone: 402-221-4148
Home Phone: 402-556-4243

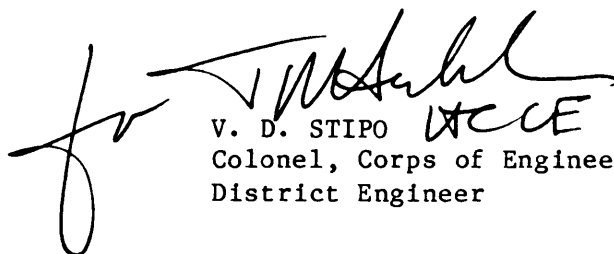
As available, the report to MROEM should include the source, nature, amount, and location of the spill together with the estimated travel rate of the water-course. These reports will be relayed by the MROEM to the appropriate EPA/USCG regional office through the Missouri River Division. EPA/USCG will then take the appropriate action necessary to deal with the spill. Any additional Omaha District response to the spill incident will be as directed by MRD.

(3) In the event of a transportation related spill of known or unknown chemicals or hazardous substances, advice as to identification and recommended countermeasures may be obtained from the Chemical Transportation Emergency Center (CHEMTREC), Washington, DC. This assistance is available day or night by calling their toll free emergency telephone number 800-424-9300. If the product is known, provide CHEMTREC with the NAME OF THE PRODUCT and the NATURE OF THE PROBLEM. If the product is unknown, provide as much of the following information as possible:

Location of Problem
Shipper or Manufacturer
Container Type
Railcar or Truck Number
Carrier Name
Consignee
Local Conditions

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It is to be noted that CHEMTREC provides assistance in identifying the product spilled and recommends countermeasures only. The responsibility for containment and cleanup remain with the shipper.


V. D. STIPO
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

DISTRIBUTION:

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